(b) to (d) Under the liberalized economic framework manufacturing of cement is exempt from industrial licensing. The Government is encouraging capacity-addition in the private sector by providing an investor friendly environment.

Establishment of SEZs

4460. SHRIMATI HEMAMALINI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the States where Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are to be set up;

(b) the areas of land being provided by the State Governments for SEZs;

(c) whether the SEZs set up would displace thousand of people and destroy farmers' livelihood;

(d) the fate of the displaced farmers; and

(e) the amount earmarked for creation of SEZs in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) After the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 came into effect on 10th February, 2006,234 formal approvals have been granted for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country, of which 103 have been notified. The SEZs formally approved are in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal and Union Territories of Chandigarh and Puducherry.

(b) to (d) In the 234 valid formal approvals granted till date, the extent of land involved is only about 33,808 hectares and in these cases, land was aready in possession of the State Government Industrial Development Corporations or the private developers. Land being a State subject, decision to identify or allot land for various purposes including SEZ is taken by the respective State Governments. Only the proposals duly recommended by the State Governments only are granted approval by the Central Government. Various issues concerning the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy have been considered by the Government and it has been decided that the State Governments would not undertake any compulsory

acquisition of land for such SEZs approved now. Further, Ministry of Rural Development has been requested to reformulate a comprehensive Land Acquisition Act to address all relevant issue and also to work out a comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy ensuring livelihood from the project to at least one person from each displaced family.

(e) The Central Government does not provide any direct financial assistance for setting up SEZs and as such no amount has been earmarked for this purpose.

Financial agency for development of SEZs

4461. SHRI V. HANUM ANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a financial agency dedicated to development of Special Economic Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the funds would be earmarked for farmers and displaced people of weaker sections;

(d) if so, the details of proposals to fund the farmers and others who sacrifice for SEZs; and

(e) the pilot schemes and plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Cap on number of SEZs

4462. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have any cap on the number of SEZs, State-wise or sector-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and